

# GRAPESVINE

## VISITACION VALLEY

NUMBER 112

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 1995

### Valley Garden Gets a Cleaning



After weeds and debris were removed from the garden, planter boxes were made ready...



... for eager planting that soon followed.

Like an army of ants, more than 150 students from Visitacion Valley Elementary (VEMS), Middle and other nearby schools swarmed over the Visitacion Valley Community Garden on Saturday, October 21, clearing the area of unwanted weeds within an hour prior to its official opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Both students and teachers at VEMS will be using the garden as a learning tool throughout the year.

Located between the Children's Center and VEMS, the garden began with a proposal written by Nancy Chin and Patte Flores, fifth grade teachers at the elementary school, receiving a major grant from the S.F. Education Fund. Through the Urban Service Project, the school gained assistance of two service learning coordinators, Kim Woo and Johnny Sun, who organized the Saturday activities.

Lasting until mid-afternoon, the event was attended by students, parents and family members, teachers and school staff, and honoraries associated with the garden.

Snacks and refreshments were served in the early morning before children and adults commenced removing weeds. At the same time another crew gathered and disposed loose weeds and litter. Finally, adult-child teams delivered new soil and

wood chips to the garden in wheelbarrows borrowed from the S.F. League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG).

In the afternoon, volunteers enjoyed barbecue hot dogs and various food donated by local businesses: Sari-Sari Food Store, Little Oulapo Bake Shop, Piccolo Pate and Hsun Kuang Restaurant. Immediately after lunch, five girls from two VEMS fifth grade classes performed a dance for the crowd. Five other students representing five other VEMS classes and Instructor Flores participated in the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremony.

The day went even better than expected, according to Ms. Woo. "I was impressed by the excellent turnout and the enthusiasm of the volunteers. The kids worked so hard."

The children were also excited by the events of the day. When asked the significance of the ground-breaking, fifth-grader Michael Tran explained, "It was special because I could help the community to make a beautiful place." Classmate Jasmine Yuan chimed in humorously, "Now we can plant food and eat better than the cafeteria food."

Lashee Owens, one of the dancers, shared her vision of the Visitacion Valley Community Garden: "Now we can see flowers instead of all the garbage."

### City Awards Grant To S.F. SAFE for Neighborhood Crime Prevention

S.F. SAFE was recently awarded an \$600,000 grant from the City to implement a neighborhood crime prevention program in San Francisco.

Subject to approval by the Police Commission, the grant was established under Proposition Q - approved by voters in November 1994 - which requires the City to appropriate funds to provide grants to assist in neighborhood crime prevention efforts.

"I am delighted to announce the award to San Francisco SAFE. San Francisco SAFE is an outstanding organization with whom I have worked for many years to make our city safer," said Mayor Frank Jordan. "This program will go a long way in assisting our efforts to prevent crime and increase public safety on our streets."

"We have responded to the pervasive demand from our citizens for safer streets in San Francisco by placing neighborhood crime specialists throughout the City," said Supervisor Carole Migden. "SAFE was selected because they put together a highly professional and diverse collaborative that shows a commitment to preventing crime in a number of neighborhoods."

Specifically, the program will utilize and expand programs which reduce crime and violence in neighborhoods and decrease the perception of danger throughout the City. It includes:

- \*Hiring 10 neighborhood crime prevention specialists to be assigned to each district police station to interface between the community and the district police stations.

- \*Implementing a major public awareness campaign about crime prevention.

- \*Sponsoring crime prevention training and resource fairs in every San Francisco neighborhood.

- \*Increasing the number of neighborhood watch groups.

- \*Expanding opportunities for youth.

- \*Increasing communications between the community and the police, and other city departments.

- \*Increased positive interaction between public housing residents and their non-public housing neighbors.

The Neighborhood Crime Prevention Program will be administered by S.F. SAFE in partnership with several collaborating agencies from throughout San Francisco including Visitacion Valley Community Center, North of Market Planning Coalition, Chinatown Youth Center, Community United Against Violence and the Senior Action Network.

### Senior Swim Time In Consideration At Coffman Pool

With a 90 minute block of time currently available daily Monday through Thursday at Coffman Pool, Visitacion and Hahn Sts., schedulers are now considering a senior citizen swim time from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. four days a week. Seniors swimmers interested in such a period are asked to express their interest by contacting Coffman Pool at 337-4702.

Admission fees to the pool are: adults (18 years and older) \$3; family rate (2 adults and 2 children) \$5; and children (17 years and under) 50 cents. Swimming lessons are \$1 plus regular admission fee.

Swim tickets are: 12 adult swims for \$28; 5 adult swims for \$12.25; 15 senior (65 years and older) swims for \$15; 10 children swim lessons for \$15; and 15 economic need swims for \$15.

**COFFMAN POOL**  
Schedule is in effect until June 14, 1996 and subject to change. Annual maintenance is April 15 through May 12, 1996. Coffman Pool is closed the second and fourth Fridays of each month from 12 noon to 3 p.m.

- \*Monday: 9:15-11:30 a.m. lap swim and echoole (shared pool); 12:30-2 p.m. lap swim
- \*Tuesday: 9-11 a.m. lap swim and echoole (shared pool); 12:30-2:30 p.m. lap swim; 2:45-4 p.m. recreation swim; 4-6 p.m. lap swim
- \*Wednesday: 9-11 a.m. lap swim and echoole (shared pool); 12:30-2:30 p.m. lap swim; 2:45-4 p.m. recreation swim; 4-6 p.m. lap swim
- \*Thursday: 9-11 a.m. lap swim and echoole (shared pool); 12:30-2:30 p.m. lap swim; 2:45-4 p.m. recreation swim; 4-6 p.m. lap swim
- \*Friday: 12:15-2:15 p.m. lap swim; 2:30-4:30 p.m. recreation swim; 4:30-5:30 p.m. lap swim; 7-8:30 p.m. recreation swim
- \*Saturday: 9:15-10:45 a.m. lap swim; 11 a.m.-12 noon adult lessons; 1:30-2:45 p.m. recreation swim; 3:15-3:45 p.m. beginner child lessons; 3:45-4:15 p.m. advanced child lessons; 4:30-5:30 p.m. lap swim

### Five Valley Benchmarks Approved By Residents at Task Force Meeting

Both Visitacion Valley Task Force (VTF) members and a standing room-only crowd of concerned residents approved an agenda of five prioritized neighborhood benchmarks on October 28 at the organization's regular monthly meeting.

After several months of compiling and discussing dozens of benchmarks and their courses of action, the list was finally narrowed to five vital concerns:

- \*Establishment of after school programs, kindergarten through 12th grade;

- \*Creating more child care slots;

- \*Need for job training, readiness and placement programs;

- \*Economic development, including reestablishment of the Visitacion Valley Merchant's Association; and

- \*Continuance and expansion of ESL programs.

Having each compiled their own sets of benchmarks, six San Francisco communities are currently vying for approximately \$3 million in government funding to improve the economic health and stability of their neighborhoods, according to Pam David, director of the federally-funded Enterprise Community Program. She said a decision is planned for early next year.

Five community leaders spoke in support of each chosen Valley benchmark.

Principal Vincent Chao of Visitacion Valley Elementary School stressed the need for after school programs in a community with a very high per capita rate of youth, urging minimum and maximum dollar amounts be emphasized.

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### City Breaks Its Mail Service Record

For the second consecutive quarter, San Francisco ranks among the nation's largest metropolitan areas in mail service.

First class mail service reached another record high in the City with mail destined for overnight delivery achieving 90 percent on-time success. This record 90 score is one point more than last quarter, and better than the 83 percent of the same period last year. Scoring comes from independent testing by Price Waterhouse during the

late May-September 1995 quarter.

Among the nine largest metropolitan areas in the nation - Los Angeles, Dallas, Philadelphia, Boston, Miami, Washington D.C., New York and Chicago - San Francisco is the first to reach a 90. Nationwide, the Postal Service delivered a record 87 percent of its one-day first class mail on time.

Altogether, 84 of 95 cities measured nationwide showed improved scores when compared to the same period last year.

### Bazaar Returning to Saint James



Some Women of Saint James members include (l-r) Ruth Arvanites, Violeta R. Galvan, Raquel Esplana, Juliana R. Reyes, Cely N. Resus and Ellen R. Reyes.



Choir Director Hermie Otter (left) shows a bazaar customer how an item works.

By Gerry L. Galvan

There has never been a dull moment at Saint James Presbyterian, 240 Leland Ave. since it came into being on April 26, 1906. The Church will celebrate its 90th corporate anniversary in 1996 with a lot of hoopla.

Anticipating end, in preparation for the founding anniversary of the perennially small yet continuously surviving congregation, the Women of Saint James, in close cooperation with other organizations, will hold a 1995 Church bazaar on November 18.

The whole-day affair will take place at the church's social hall and patios where various bazaar sections will be displayed. Such details as a food sale, clothing ensemble, accessories, appliances and furniture items will surely be featured during the event. Just like in previous Saint James bazars, this November 18 presentation will set aside room for kitchenware, books and magazines.

Organizers for this year's bazaar say that a lot could happen during the 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. bazaar.

### Hearing on Jobs Scheduled in City

A public hearing on economic insecurity and unemployment will be held November 11 from 12 noon to 4 p.m. at the State Building, 505 Van Ness Ave. Sponsored by the Full Employment Coalition, composed of diverse Bay Area organizations and individuals, the event advocates legislation designated as A Living Wage, Jobs for All Act.

"The Full Employment Coalition has encouraged these hearings as a means of raising public consciousness on the seriousness of rising unemployment and job insecurity, and to gain support for HR 1050," explained Barbara Arms, Coalition coordinator. "Millions of people have been left by the economic wayside. The growth of the global marketplace, automation, and unprecedented changes in business practices have produced a

shocking increase in the gap between the rich and the poor.

The Coalition believes an integrated full employment program would be a major first step in helping to reduce many of today's social problems - including racial inequality, homelessness, welfare dependency, domestic violence and crime.



Quality of Life Better in San Francisco

By Mayor Frenk Jordan

Recently, in preparation for my annual State of the City Address, I was able to reflect upon my administration's first four years, proud in what we had accomplished, confident in our direction, yet not satisfied knowing what was left to do.

San Francisco is once again a city with direction, a direction that you chose four years ago when you elected me. You gave me a mandate to make the City safe again, to make the City clean again and to make the City economically viable and vibrant again.

I made increasing public safety, improving the quality of life of our citizens and turning around the business climate my top priorities. I did so with results, not rhetoric.

Today, I am proud to state that our overall crime rate is down over 20 percent. Murders are down, rape is down, assaults are down and burglaries are down. There are more police officers on our streets than at any other time in the history of our city and we did it without raising taxes.

Statistically, we have much to be proud of; we are headed in the right direction but there is more we can do.

Despite these major reductions in crime, we still face many challenges, particularly in the area of juvenile crime. That is why I have proposed a youth curfew on the November ballot that targets those who commit a disproportionate amount of the crimes.

Another priority of my administration has been our commitment to the quality of life of the citizens of San Francisco.

Two years ago, I initiated a Matrix Program to fight aggressive panhandling and street crimes. Matrix enhances the City's quality of life by combining police enforcement, social services and health services to target the problems of street people. This year, I expanded the program to eliminate illegal encampments in city parks which pose major health and public safety hazards. Matrix has been judged a success at achieving its aim: to set an acceptable standard of behavior in our streets, in our parks and in our neighborhoods.

Our efforts are paying off. The quality of life in San Francisco is improving and will continue to improve as long as we continue the policies that I have put into place.

Beyond public safety and the quality of life of its citizenry, San Francisco needs to ensure that its future is secure. I have learned that the only reliable path to a secure future is a sensible economic policy, leading to growth and new jobs.

Four years ago, I took over a city government whose finances were out of control. In the ensuing years, I have resolved budget deficits totaling over \$746 million and I have balanced those budgets without significant reductions to essential services. I did it with vigilance, creativity and sound financial practices.

Unfortunately, our job will not get easier in a climate of budgetary constraints brought on by cutbacks from both the federal and state level. I am committed to addressing the impending

cuts with a new and creative approach: competitive governance.

Competitive governance will enable us to reduce our City government labor force by 15 percent over the next four years. It will enable existing city employee groups to have the opportunity to compete against the private sector to provide a variety of public services, thereby reducing costs and improving the quality of services. And by privatizing 20 percent of Muni and eliminating the much publicized "work-rules," we can competitively govern our City, reducing waste, reducing cost and most importantly not raising taxes.

By containing government spending and not raising taxes, we will continue to maintain an attractive atmosphere for business, maintaining the jobs we have today and creating the jobs we need tomorrow.

San Francisco is working again because we have turned our anti-business attitude around. The City's unemployment rate remains low and we are creating more new jobs. Vacancy rates in the City's business and commercial buildings continue to decline and construction is up more than 30 percent since I took office.

Jobs and new businesses are coming to San Francisco because we have created a climate that is conducive and responsive to their needs.

While I am proud of the current State of the City and the direction of San Francisco, I will not be satisfied until the job is finished, until the streets are even cleaner, our neighborhoods and parks even safer, our budgets even more sound, our economy more robust and our future more secure.

An Opinion: Final Thoughts on "Trial of the Century"

By Gerry L. Galvan

The Los Angeles district attorney's office lost the O.J. Simpson double murder trial on September 26, 1994. The case was sealed, so to speak, right then and there at the L.A. superior court's jury selection room. Yes, indeed. The people lost on September 26, 1994, not on October 2, 1995.

Gill Garcetti, L.A. district attorney, didn't know it. Otherwise, he would've allowed Marcia Clark to do the prosecution all by herself. Robert Shapiro didn't know it either. Otherwise, he wouldn't have hired the 14 other lawyers to his so-called "dream team" and the expensive expert witnesses and other rah-rah persons couldn't have parroted the DNA, blood typing contamination and other "scientific" and medical/legal mumbo jumbo.

The scores upon scores of people, including juror Brenda Moran, Robert Kardashian, etc. who have repeatedly tried to thrust into public conscience their paraded concept of the O.J. Simpson case may sound convincing to some observers. But one thing cannot be altered. The chosen jurors, knowingly/ unknowingly, got into a case that was decided immediately after the jury was formed on September 26, 1994.

Let's look at the facts.

Firstly, the case itself. - It was messy. Presumably, no one saw the killing. The police and other investigators didn't find, and haven't - to this time - found the murder weapon or weapons.

Secondly, the police investigation. - By itself, it was a joke. As seen during the latter part of the trial, a bad apple - in the person of Detective Mark Furhman - was wittingly or unwittingly assigned to join a group of reputedly fine, hardworking and honest police officers in the investigation itself. (Taking the witness stand was inevitable because of his involvement in the initial investigation. Lying under oath exacerbated the already problematic jury choice).

Thirdly, the obvious disparity in the jury composition. - Having nine African American citizens sit in the jury box, and only two Caucasians and one Latino was inviting disaster for the prosecution's objective to convict O.J. Simpson. To quota Simpson's sister who was reported to say, "We live in a real

world," it was very highly improbable that not even one of the nine African American jurors would vote to acquit Simpson; assuming that all nine African Americans, two Caucasians and Latino would vote for conviction, that is.

As almost everybody now knows, one dissenting vote in a murder trial results to a hung jury. One TV legal analyst propounded that almost always, a retrial from a hung jury results in the loss of the case by the prosecution.

Fourthly, the evidence. - The complicated DNA, together with the mind-boggling language regarding scientific systems of blood samplings contributed to the confusion on the issues and evidence, and the jurors who mostly didn't have the sophistication to comprehend what the attorneys and experts were saying chose the easy way out. "Acquit for lack of evidence beyond reasonable doubt."

Fifthly, the three non-African American members of the jury panel. - Regardless of their beliefs and findings, they were bound to vote for acquittal in the end. They knew conviction could mean social and political disturbance similar to the riot in and around Los Angeles immediately after the police officers in the Rodney King case were acquitted by a predominantly white jury.

God bless America, whose concept of, and practice of the jury system has greatly differed from that of Great Britain's. Things could have been much better. There's still hope for a system that's flawless and beyond suspicion. The United States is only 219 years old.

As far as this writer is concerned, the O.J. Simpson case is closed and further discussion of it in any venue is a waste of time.

Peace Corps Recruitment

Peace Corps will be recruiting volunteers on Saturday, November 18, 10 a.m. to 12 noon at Fort Mason Center, Building C, Room 370 at Bay and Buchanan Sts. To qualify, you must be a U.S. citizen in good health, at least 18 years old, and have a bachelor's degree or 3-6 years of skilled work experience. There is no upper age limit. For more information, call (800) 424-8580.

Some Helpful Environmental Tips for the Holiday Season

By David Assmann

S.F. Recycling Program

Even though the holiday season is still a few weeks away, now is the time to make plans for reducing your impact on the environment during the holidays. This is not as difficult as it may seem, since the holidays offer many opportunities to reduce, reuse and recycle. Here are five tips to get you started:

- \*Buy gifts that benefit the environment. These could include memberships in environmental organizations, hand-made and home-made gifts, gardening items or long-lasting "environmental gifts" like a solar battery charger with rechargeable batteries, water-conserving shower heads or ceramic mugs. For kids, consider giving an environmental excursion, like a whale-watching or camping trip; or enroll them in a holiday class at the Randall Museum (554-9600) where they can make holiday decorations and gifts from previously used materials.
- \*Take a canvas bag or back pack when you go shopping. One-third of all municipal solid waste is packaging (nationwide 64 million tons of packaging ends up in the waste stream every year). Much of this packaging is not even needed in the first place. You can help reduce this waste by reusing packaging and only accepting packaging when absolutely necessary. For every dollar you spend in stores, 10 cents is used to pay for packaging. So if you use less packaging and buy products that have as little packaging as possible, you will ultimately benefit.
- \*If you are entertaining, send invitations on recycled paper, buy in bulk, and use reusable dishes and utensils. If you need paper products, buy products

made from recycled paper. Set up an area to recycle cans, bottles and other recyclables at your party. Decorate with plants, flowers and reused materials instead of plastic streamers. Rent or borrow infrequently used items like punchbowl or large platters. You can also set up a sharing arrangement with neighbors for party items you may only need once or twice a year.

- \*Recycle the natural way - by composting your food and vegetable trimmings. More than 150,000 tons of food and yard waste is generated in San Francisco every year. Much of this waste can be composted into a soil amendment for house and garden plants. The City's Recycling Program, in cooperation with the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners, offers free workshops on composting, free composting brochures and reduced price composting bins. Call 285-7585 for details.
- \*Recycle your junk mail and catalogs. As the holiday season approaches, our mail boxes bulge with catalogs and other junk mail. Letters from family and friends are often buried in this blizzard of bulk mail. In fact, we're eight times as likely to receive a piece of junk mail as we are to receive a personal letter. But even though junk mail and catalogs can be recycled through San Francisco's curbside and apartment collection programs, about 30 percent of recyclers don't recycle their junk mail.

You can also reduce the amount of junk mail you receive. Since 1971, the Direct Marketing Association (DMA), the trade association for direct mailers, has operated a "Mail Preference Service" containing the names of individuals who do not wish to receive direct

mail. Mailers who are members of the DMA use this list whenever they do a mailing and do not send mail to anyone on the list.

In order to get on the list, send your full name and address to the Mail Preference Service, c/o Direct Marketing Association, P.O. Box 9008, Farmingdale, NY 11735-9008. Your name will stay on this list for five calendar years. At the end of that time, your name will automatically go off the list (on January 1st) unless you write them and ask them to include your name for an additional five years.

Being on this list won't automatically and all your direct mail tomorrow. It takes several months for your name to work its way through the system, and not every mailer uses the Mail Preference Service, so the volume of junk mail you receive will be reduced, not eliminated.

Unfortunately, your name can creep back onto mailing lists in a variety of ways. Direct mailers get their mailing lists from credit bureaus, state motor vehicle departments, telephone books and warranty cards. You can write to credit bureaus asking to be taken off their direct market file - the biggest three to write are: 1) Equifax Options, Equifax Marketing Decision Systems, Inc., P.O. Box 740123, Atlanta, GA 30374-0123; 2) Trans Union, Transmark, Inc., 555 W. Adams St., Chicago, IL 60661 and 3) TRW-NCAC, Target Marketing Services Division, 12606 Greenville Ave., Dallas, TX 75243 Attn: Mail Preference Service. You should also consider not filling out warranty cards - they're used solely to gather names for a mailing list - since you're covered by the manufacturer's warranty whether the card is returned or not.

Zero Tolerance Equals Zero Caring

By Leland Y. Yee, Ph.D.

S.F. Board of Education

While the concept of zero tolerance towards guns and weapons found on individuals near or on a school campus was intended to protect and provide for the safety of many, its full implementation has brought forth unanticipated problems. While I cannot imagine any good or acceptable reason for anyone to have a gun on or near campus, in one case, a San Francisco youngster, not knowing that his mother had placed a gun in his backpack, thinking it was her backpack, brought the gun to school. After this discovery was made at the expulsion hearing, the administrative hearing panel allowed the student to transfer to another school to get a fresh start.

The San Francisco Unified School District has had other incidents when a student went camping or fishing during the weekend and left a Swiss Army knife in his coat pocket, only to be discovered by his classmates when he threw his coat on the ground during lunch. This student appeared before the hearing panel, and the panel recommended that the student be allowed to return to his original school. Our experience has been that the majority of our students are truthful when asked why they had to bring a weapon appropriate direction and support will to school. When the explanation is not

reasonable, and the weapon was not brandished, the District has tried to use education, rather than punishment, to help students understand the serious nature of their actions.

When a student has brought a weapon to school and has injured or threatened another student or adult, the hearing panel does recommend expulsion. For the past two years, students expelled from the San Francisco Unified School District are asked to attend the County community day school, which is a County school for status offenders and other students who have not been successful at our comprehensive high schools. These students also receive individual counseling, as well as group support to help them cope with the various social problems that confront them daily.

As we move forward to insure the safety of the majority, we cannot exclude the perpetrators from continuing with their education. During this period of idle time, they may become involved with more difficulties and bad choices.

The Board of Education must consider the intent of bringing weapons to school before exacting a sentence, and provide funds for teachers, counselors, parents and community partners to offer adequate guidance for our youth. Students who are not given the opportunity to learn from their mistakes

Exploratorium Bringing Its Exhibits to Downtown S.F.

A mini-Exploratorium opens in the Emporium's flagship store on Market St. on November 24, the day after Thanksgiving. Exploratorium at the Emporium will feature 20 exhibits from the popular science museum, will occupy 2,500 square feet in the children's department on the fourth floor.

This is a rare opportunity to sample some of the best exhibits of the Exploratorium for free, particularly for those who rarely travel to the Palace of Fine Arts where the museum is located.

The Exploratorium Store, stocked with best-selling science and learning products, will be open for business on

the fourth floor throughout the holiday season.

MEASURING UP

At *About the Size of It: A Circus of the Big and Small*, you can see how you size up beside a suit that belonged to the world's tallest man, gloves once worn by Mrs. Tom Thumb, and shoes from some of the biggest feet in professional basketball. Compare your own height to that of the tallest and shortest measured humans and try on extreme-sized clothing just for fun.

You can trip over the tip of the Great Pyramid of Giza erupting through the museum floor, the skyline of San Francisco on a Beach Blanket Babylon hat, or use Wentzscope to see a micro Mona Lisa or a grain of rice with President Clinton's name inscribed 56 times.

These are just a few examples of the very big and very small, all examples of how we measure the world around us according to this thing called human scale, on exhibition at the Exploratorium through January 28.

MINIATURE'S DAY

Picture a profusion of miniature crafts, including doll house accesso-

ries, tiny hand crafted ceramics, wood turned bowls and model ships. It's all part of *Miniature's Day* at Exploratorium, Sunday, November 5 from 1 to 4 p.m., offered in conjunction with *About the Size of It*.

The Exploratorium is located at 3601 Lyon St. Call 563-7337 for more information.

Craftswomen Exhibit Arts at Fort Mason

More than 300 of the nation's most talented craftswomen will be showcased at the 1995 *Celebration of Craftswomen*, San Francisco's largest and most prestigious holiday crafts fair, on both December 2-3 and 9-10 at Fort Mason Center's Herbst Pavilion, Buchanan St. and Marina Blvd.

Featuring 150 different artists each weekend, the celebration is the largest juried women's crafts fair in the United States. With continuous live entertainment over two weekends, international cuisine and beverages, and a special spotlight of works from mother/daughter artists teams, this benefit for the S.F. Women's Building will highlight this year's holiday shopping season.

GRAPEVINE

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Executive Director: Julie A. Kavanagh

Editor: Len Appiano

Staff: Bonnie Bamberg, Don Bertone, Vincent Chao, Walter Corbin, Pat Crocker, Gerry Galvan, Victoria Gray, Brenda Lopez, Florence Pewtherer

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SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING COMMISSION

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HAZARDOUS WASTE FACILITY EXPANSION

ON TUNNEL AVENUE

Regular Meeting, November 14, 1995, 7 p.m.

Korean Presbyterian Church

120 Lathrop Ave., San Francisco

Presentation on Fire Safety Issues

at the Hazardous Waste Facility

Further Information: 558-6319, or

Don Bertone, Chair: 467-4669



Hazardous Waste Expansion Unhealthy for Valley

The following letter dated October 15, 1995 was sent to Supervisor Carole Migden, Chair of the Housing and Land Use Committee of the S.F. Board of Supervisors by Little Hollywood resident Ralph Oroquita.

Dear Supervisor Migden and Members of the Board:

I am writing in opposition to the proposed planning code amendments and amendments to the Environmental Protection Element because:

[1] There is a lack of adequate conditions to site the safest and most environmentally clean hazardous waste facility that is possible with the best available technology;

[2] The recommendations of the Local Assessment Committee for the expansion of an existing facility were not reviewed;

[3] The Fire Prevention Division was not requested to provide their recommendations for siting of a facility;

[4] The siting criteria of Page 8 and 9 of Exhibit A are not in the best interest of public safety;

[5] The comprehensive health study for the southeast section of San Francisco are not completed.

(1) Conditional use permits for siting hazardous waste facilities can be generic and still be very specific. These conditions must reflect that they are to be used for siting a hazardous waste facility in San Francisco;

(2) The San Francisco Planning Commission, in November 1992, appointed a Local Assessment Committee to advise the City on the terms and conditions by which a proposed expansion of the existing hazardous waste facility at 501 Tunnel Avenue may be acceptable to the community.

This facility is cosponsored by the City and County of San Francisco, which is also presented as "operator" of the facility. The facility opened as a pilot program in 1988. After almost three years, the Committee is still holding meetings. For almost five months, the Committee has been without the technical advisor and legal staff because of lack of funding.

The environmental impact report for this expansion is now in the Public Comment Review process and the Committee should be in the negotiation process with the expansion sponsor, Norcal Waste Management, Inc. / Sanitary Fill Company. This is not a time when the Committee should be without a technical advisor or legal staff.

The Local Assessment Committee produced 60 major environmental and community health and safety issues in 12 categories. There are three documents: Environmental Impact Report - Analysis and Comments, April 1995; Transportation Analysis Technical Report, April 1995; and Master List of Issues, March 1995.

I wrote a letter to the committee dated April 30, 1995 requesting that its recommendations, concerns and mitigation measures be written in such a manner that they could be applied to any hazardous waste facility regardless of location, as long as it was 500 feet from a residential district and was within an M-2 (Heavy Industrial District). I presented the letter at the May 2, 1995 community meeting. That was the last time the Committee had representation by a

technical advisor and a legal staff. I have been informed that there is no funding for the review of the draft environmental impact report, which includes the expansion of the hazardous waste facility, after it is certified during the public comment period. I have requested, through the Planning Department, a determination from Elaine Warren, City Attorney as to this being proper in reference to the Tanner Act (1986).

(3) The Fire Prevention Division of the Fire Department should have presented guidelines in the draft environmental impact report. The parameters were basic: 400,000 plus gallons yearly and a storage capacity of no more than 10,000 gallons at any one time. The majority of material handled would be flammable.

The National Fire Protection Association has three excellent manuals: Hazardous Materials Response Standards and Handbook; Emergency Management of Hazardous Materials Incidents; and Fire Protection Guide to Hazardous Materials.

(4) Pages 8 and 9 titled Hazardous Waste Transfer and Storage Facility (TSF) Siting Criteria of the draft dated August 10, 1995. Proposed Amendments to the Environmental Element of the Master Plan. The broad definitions as to where a facility may be sited would place unwarranted and unnecessary risks on the general public and even greater risks to the very young, the sick, the handicapped and the elderly. The Oakland Hills fire, Point Reyes fire and the San Bruno Mountain grass fires, and the ashes spreading throughout San Francisco clearly demonstrate how air borne materials can travel great distances. Pages 8 and 9 need to be rewritten.

There is a misconception that the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) controls "all" the air emissions from each specific site. The BAAQMD controls stationary source emissions and considers each source individually. It does not control the mobile sources, such as vehicles or other mobile equipment. The BAAQMD does not evaluate the toxicity or total amount of toxic air contaminants, hazardous contaminants, and particulate matter that are released from a specific site or complex. A site that releases more of a particulate contaminant than is allowed can purchase pollution credits from another county that has terminated a polluting process or will not allow a proposed polluting process to be started. This policy of the BAAQMD has very discriminating effects because it allows and encourages polluting processes to stay in close proximity to low income and minority neighborhoods.

In November 1994, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency added 286 chemicals to the 368 chemicals for a total of 654 chemicals to the Toxic Release Inventory, the Community Right to Know Program enacted by Congress in 1986. The list of hazardous and carcinogenic chemicals is increasing as more testing is being conducted.

Safe levels of a specific air emission from a specific source does not in any way say that a combination of all emissions from a specific site are at safe levels. Air borne contaminants must be contained at the source. The BAAQMD does not regulate the health issues of a stationary source.

(5) A comprehensive cancer and respiratory disease study must be done of the entire southeast section of San Francisco because this area has been subjected to the most pollution for the longest time period. This study should include

Little Hollywood, Visitacion Valley and Executive Park. The funding for this study should be provided by the federal government through the Environmental Protection Agency.

See Page 7



A flu shot

paid for by Medicare

Flu shots are safe, effective and your best defense against more serious illness. This year get a flu shot to protect yourself, your family and your friends. It's paid for by Medicare. If you want more information, including where to get a flu shot in your neighborhood, call California Medical Review, Inc. (CMRI) at

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TDD 1-800-881-5980

CMRI

CMRI is collaborating with the following organizations to reach seniors about the importance of flu shots:

Alameda County Public Health Department ■ Allen Temple Arms Retirement Community ■ American Lung Association ■ Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Senior Center ■ Bayview Hunters Point Network for Elders ■ Beth Eden Senior Housing ■ Health Care Financing Administration ■ Jones Memorial United Methodist Church ■ Maxine Hall Health Center ■ Over 60 Health Center ■ Providence Baptist Church ■ Rose Olvet Baptist Church ■ San Francisco County Public Health Department ■ Southeast Health Center ■ Third Baptist Church ■ Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice of Northern California ■ Western Addition Senior Citizens Service Center ■

Saturdays at Randall Museum

Sign-ups begin at 11:15 a.m. for 11:30 a.m. classes, and at 12:30 p.m. for 1 p.m. classes. Space is limited. No organized groups please. Some spaces can be reserved for members - call 654-9800 for information. Young Audiences Arts Card holders receive a 2 for 1 discount. \$4-10 a person sliding scale. Please Note: Adults also pay the class fee, and must accompany all children under 8. All ages are welcome at 1 p.m. 11:30 a.m. classes are open to children 5 and up. There are no classes November 11 or 25.

NOVEMBER 4  
11:30 a.m.: Zappera! Discover the science of magnets and solar electricity. Make an electromagnet to take home.  
1 p.m.: Leather Treasure Boxes Make your own special treasure box out of leather.  
NOVEMBER 18  
10 a.m.: Family Ceramics An enjoyable introduction to clay work for parent and child alike.  
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.: Children's Train Days Kids can try their hand at model railroading for free.  
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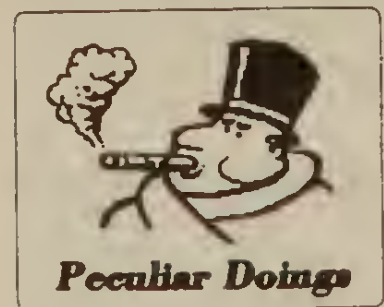
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Now here are a few things to deliberate on:

\*Seems a repo man in Kansas City got a little bit more than the Firebird he was reclaiming when the car's owner left his 8-day old son sitting on the back seat of the running car. So the baby went for a joy ride.

\*Riding away with a million bucks was a former East Bay man who won a judgement from a Berkeley auto parts store when it was revealed he was fired for weighing more than 400 pounds. Not enough, I suppose, to qualify for the quarter-ton section.

\*Who's helping keep streets safe in Antioch? Would you believe, garbage-men, who now receive special police training in spotting potential problems along with their sacks. That's putting crime in the dumpster.

\*While were in the gutter, people in Colorado are still grumbling about that Denver-based brewery having put the "s" word in a slogan right on its product. You can't believe everything you read on a beer can.

\*And what about the falling grouse in Scotland that spiraled down after being shot and hit the Queen who was out for a stroll. Almost sounds like a cross between a fairytale and a punk rock song.

\*Scientist down near San Diego are working on this new kind of natural sleeping pill by testing spinal fluids from the animals who know best about dosing - cats. Good news for insomniacs everywhere, chow chow chow.

\*And NASA scientists have recently been busy injecting spiders with psychotropic drugs to see if they'll spin their webs differently. And if the spider's a southpaw?

\*While we're into tangles, gourmets in India are driving the swiftlet into extinction. Seems they like eating the nests of the little birds. So throw away the banana and eat the peel.

\*Meanwhile, the government of In-

die has announced that a person is killed in an automobile accident on its streets and highways every 8.5 minutes, worst rate in the world. Now that equates to 60,000 fatalities last year, with an additional 300,000 injured. Time for some driver's training.

\*Scientists were actually experimenting with satellite animal tracking by following every step of a test elephant. You know they never forget.

\*While we're up in space, it seems a law astronaut had to be scratched by NASA from participating in a scheduled Soyuz flight to the Russian space station Mir next year because they were either an inch too short or two inches too tall for the cramped capsules. Wouldn't want a hit a head on a hatch.

\*Over in Fiji, the government has been thinking about getting rid of laws branding its indigenous religions as witchcraft. You know, everybody should have freedom of hocus pocus.

\*And speaking of spirits, a fortune teller in Bulgaria recently had to surrender her trade because her tape recorder with voices from the other side jammed while trying to dupe some clients. Wait a minute, wasn't that a plot covered once on Golmer Pyle?

\*How about that Moscow police precinct getting busted for making some extra cash on the side by running a brothel business. I guess their new economy still has them seeing red.

\*After leaving a bunch of greens on her stove to cook while she ran off to Sunday mass, a New York lady was surprised to find police at her front door upon returning. Seems a neighbor thought he smelled a dead body.

\*Even a cease-and-desist order could keep one Florida woman away from a man with the same surname whom she claimed was her ex-husband. She insisted the man she had never met was fronting her real husband and wanted half his house. No, their names are not Smith.

\*Now its gotten to where casinos are thinking of putting their gaming activities on the Internet. So if you lose and can't pay, does a big black van pull up to your place and take your computer away?

\*And deep in the heart of Texas where a cattle rustler could once expect a quick hanging if caught, punishment for theft of cattle up to \$20,000 was recently reduced to a likely probation. Guess they don't want to be hampered with a bunch of bull.

## Compost Bin Sale Sets a New Record

About 1,300 San Francisco residents lined up in the Sunset on September 16 to buy one of a limited number of compost bins being offered to City residents at a reduced rate by the S.F. Recycling Program. The bin sale, the third conducted by the program, moved one-third more bins than last year, when all 960 bins were sold in less than four hours.

"The interest and enthusiasm in composting shown by San Francisco residents is encouraging," said Jack Macy, organics recycling coordinator for the S.F. Recycling Program. "More than one-third of the 1.3 billion pounds of waste taken to the Altamont landfill each year is organic material. Much of this material could easily be composted."

In order to facilitate composting, the City, in cooperation with the S.F. League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG) offered the Earth Machine, a state of the art compost bin to residents at a 70 percent discount at the one day event. This bin is ideal for composting fruit, vegetable and yard trimmings.

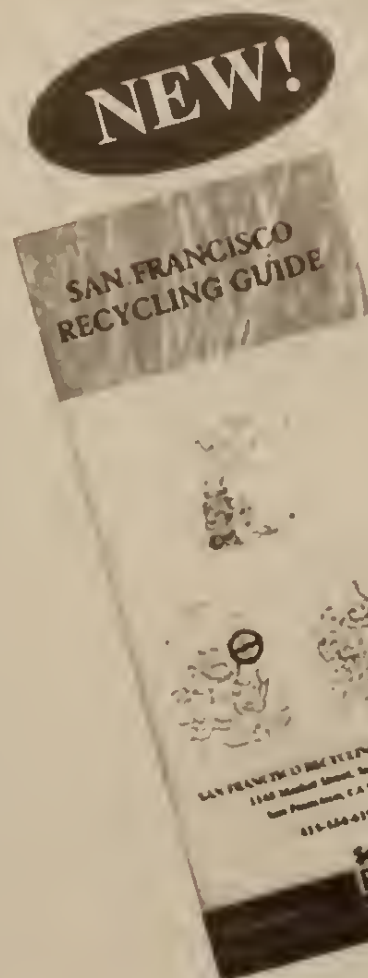
A limited number of bins are still available from SLUG. More than 5,000 City residents have purchased bins from the program since 1990, with more than 3,000 having attended composting workshops. Free workshops on composting are offered several times a month by SLUG. For more information, call 283-7585.

## S.F. Recycling Program Volunteer Opportunities

San Francisco Recycling Program is looking for volunteers to help with waste prevention and recycling projects in San Francisco. Assistance is needed in promoting Christmas tree recycling, keeping the environment in mind during the holiday season, reducing waste while shopping and many other projects.

To find out more, come to a volunteer orientation meeting on Tuesday, November 14 at 7 p.m. at 1145 Market St., Suite 401. For more information, call 554-3406.

## Free Waste Prevention and Recycling Publications



### San Francisco Recycling Guide

An overview of recycling in San Francisco, including tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle at home, work and during the holidays. This trilingual guide (English, Chinese and Spanish) also gives information about recycling organics, paper, aluminum, glass, steel and plastics.

### Environmental Shopping Guide

How to keep the environment in mind while you shop is the focus of this guide. Tips on reducing packaging, environmental options and special ideas for teenagers and kids are in this handy guide.

### Environmental Shopping Guide



Call 554-6193 and leave your name and address for a free copy of either, or both of the above publications. Offer open to San Francisco residents only.

**San Francisco  
RECYCLING  
PROGRAM**

## Valley Middle School on the Move!



Members of the VVMS Boy's Baseball team and friends include: (front l-r) Tamika Bell, Jarreau Simms, Daniel Mora, Yaya Aly, Denisha Carter; (center l-r) Gilfred Cariaso, Tevresh Khalik, Eric Kwock, Ben Chen, Leupo Pou, Alemin Thien; (back l-r) George Benitez, Eddie Amataga, Laciasha Boxley, Ruta Taito, Coach Vel Tagalao, Elisera Taito and Taoua Manamea.

By John R. Flores, Ph.D.

VVMS Principal  
VIZITATION NIGHT

Parents and guardians are invited to a Vization Night on Thursday, November 2 from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a half-hour presentation in the auditorium followed by parent/guardian visits with teaching families, a wonderful opportunity to meet your child's teachers.

FAMILY MATH NIGHT

Family Math Night will take place on Thursday, November 16 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. There will be games, contests, puzzles and math activities the entire family can enjoy.

This is an opportunity for parents to see how much is being taught in middle schools today, including material from the latest SFUSD textbook adoption: *Interactive Mathematics*. Teachers and students will be sharing what they've learned with parents and students from other classes. There will be prizes for all participating students, and refreshments will be served.

Last year, everyone who attended the Family Math Night had a wonderful time, so even more people are expected to come this year. Mark your calendar and plan to come with your child.

TURNER PARTNERSHIP

Last year VVMS was fortunate to be linked up with Turner Construction, and the school is continuing its partnership this year. Plans are to build a school store, a reading bench for the library, and set up a shadowing recognition program. Outstanding students will have the opportunity to shadow an employee at the corporate headquarters.

SPIDER PARTNERSHIP

Visitacion Valley Middle School and the new S.F. Spiders hockey team

have formed a partnership, with the Spiders supporting VVMS through spirit assemblies, recognition certificates, donation of hockey tickets and helping the school with rewards.

KEY-SEC MEETING

The parent group known as Key-SEC has a meeting scheduled for the evening of November 29 from 5:30 to 7 p.m., a wonderful opportunity for parents and guardians to become involved with how the school budget is spent.

BASKETBALL COMING

Girl's and Boy's basketball begins this month. All home games will begin at 3:30 p.m. in the VVMS gymnasium. Parents and guardians are invited to share the excitement with the students, but spectators from visiting schools must have the principal's approval. Last year, the boy's team won the city championship.

IMPORTANT NOVEMBER DATES

2: Vization Night 5-7 p.m.; 8: Basketball season openers; 9: Staff Development Day (no school); 10: Veteran's Day (no school); 13: Book Fair Week; 16: Family Math Night 6:30-7:30 p.m.; 23-24: Thanksgiving recess (no school); 29: Key-SEC Meeting 5:30-7:30 p.m.

1995 BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Athletic Director: Bob Morley  
Girl's: Coach Leigh Hickie; November 8 vs. Aptos; 15 vs. Luther Burbank; 17 at James Denman; 21 vs. Martin Luther King; 29 at James Lick; December 1 vs. Herbert Hoover; 6 at A.P. Giannini

Boy's: Coach Patrick Clocarelli; November 8 at Aptos; 15 at Luther Burbank; 17 vs. James Denman; 21 at Martin Luther King; 29 vs. James Lick; December 1 at Herbert Hoover (played at Sunset, 2201 Lawton St.); 8 vs. A.P. Giannini.

## Police Officer Injured While Making Arrest

A police officer from Ingleside Station suffered facial injuries October 10 after being stricken by a heavy object at the Sunnydale housing complex.

Both the officer and his partner had

made a routine traffic stop about midday and were in the process of arresting a suspect, whose repeated calls for help drew a sizeable crowd. In an ensuing melee that followed, an unknown assailant struck the officer with a piece of lumber, causing a fractured jaw and loss of several teeth.

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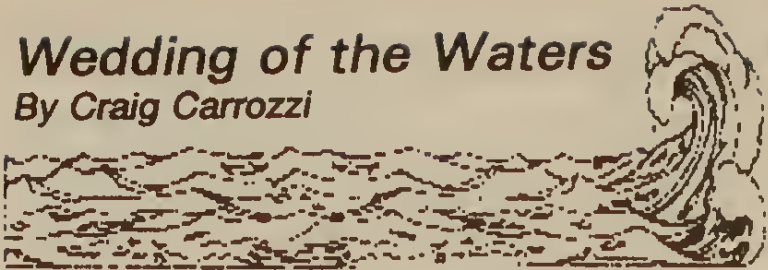
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Wedding of the Waters

By Craig Carrozzi



Adventurer Craig Carrozzi contemplates his first evening in Brazil.

STOWAWAY-SORT OF (Part 1)

I opened the wooden shutters and looked out on the street. Night had fallen and the townspeople were coming out of their homes. I looked at the sky. Glimmering Venus was visible. She seemed to wink at me. Maybe it's an omen, I thought. Something is going to happen tonight. Hopefully something good ... How bright the stars are here. Clear skies and clean air.

I felt restless and hungry. I closed the shutters and left the room. The front of the pensao, a sitting area with lounge chairs and old magazines, was moribund. I went to the dining room and found the staff eating super.

"Good evening," I said, looking at the food spread on the table.

"Good evening," said the dona (mistress). "Are you hungry?"

"Yes."

"Would you like to eat with us?"

"What is there to eat?"

"What we have here. There is plenty."

I saw a tureen of clear broth, white rice, bread, and one boiled egg for each diner. Plenty? I thought. Maybe for you, but I want something more substantial. I haven't had anything solid since early this morning in Leticia. But if it's cheap enough, I could have a snack and talk to these pretty maids for a while.

"How much?" I asked the dona.

"Only \$80 cruzeiros."

"No, thank you. It's still too early for me to eat."

"All right." The dona looked offended.

I left the dining room and walked to the front door. Now I understand why the rooms are so cheap, I thought. Charging \$80 cruzeiros for that pap seems out of line. I'll go out in a little while and find something. Maybe make an evening of it.

I stood in the doorway and watched the people pass. I tapped my right foot to the music issuing from many of the open front doors of the houses on the block. The corner store was jammed with drinking men. This place is waking up, I thought. Maybe there is some action here - it is a port. But where can I go?

I was bursting with suppressed nervous energy. I felt unsettled and scatter-brained, as though I had drunk too much strong coffee. I paced from the sitting room to the dining room and back several times. Finally, I sat on one of the lounge chairs and thumbed through a magazine. I was joined by one of the other guests. After a short interval, he struck up a conversation with me.

"So you are from the United States," he said. "I have been there. I was a sailor on a merchant ship."

"Did you like it?" I asked.

"Yes, to visit. I like here better. It's calmer."

"Probably so. I don't know."

"Do you like Brazil?"

"This is my first day."

"Your first day?" The man smiled and produced a bottle of clear liquid. "Have a drink to celebrate your first day in Brasil."

"What is it?"

"Cachaca (cane alcohol)." He took a draught and passed me the bottle. "To celebrate your first day."

I took a sip. The fiery liquid burned my throat and shot to my head. "It is strong," I said.

The man laughed. "Have another shot. It will help you learn to speak brasileiro."

I took another shot. The liquor was harsh but the effect on my head was good. This would be better mixed, I thought.

The man knew a few words of English and tried them on me. Unfortunately, my Portuguese was much better than his English. Our conversation petered out after about five minutes. The man gave me a last shot of cachaca and left. A nice guy, I thought. I felt more settled now - ready to go out ... But first I better change these muddy pants. They smell of jungle rot.

I retired to my room. While changing clothes, I was overtaken by a bizarre sensation. The combination of nervous energy and alcohol had done something to me. I felt detached from my body. I looked at the mirror hanging on the wall over the bed and saw this strange but familiar person languorously move about and change pants under the dim, artificial glow of

the electric lamp. Except for my sight, my senses seemed to be deserting me. It was as if I had become a disembodied spirit, or an actor in a film watching himself on a slow motion replay.

"This is crazy," I said aloud. "The booze wasn't that strong."

Weird, I thought. My voice sounds like its coming from underwater. What's happening to me? ... I better go out and get some air. Get some food.

I left the room and hit the street. The sensation of self-detachment persisted as I walked. My thoughts became fuzzy. My mind went numb. I gave no conscious thought to where I was headed, nor did I care. I was adrift, floating, like a wind-tossed paper wrapper. A stray light caught my eye and pulled me up the street. A shouted oath, a burst of laughter, led me down an alley. Bright Christmas decorations and loud music brought me to the town praça (square). Faces were caricatures. I saw everything as absurd. I laughed. People gave me funny looks. I laughed harder. I walked faster and the bright lights dimmed. Tree branches swayed and leaves rustled in the gentle breeze. I felt sweat drying on my forehead as I stopped walking and looked about.

I was on the edge of town. Behind the last row of houses the darkness was thick and the brooding trees were silhouettes. A delicious aroma of roasting beef tickled my nostrils. I noticed the building directly in front of me. Through mesh-screened windows I saw a spacious well-lit interior with rows of tables and chairs. It's a restaurant, I thought. Just what I need.

Without further delay, I entered. Save for a lone man drinking a beer, I was the only customer. This made me hesitate before I sat down. I surveyed the room. The decor was simple and agreeable; a backdrop of soothing pastels with a lush variety of plants hanging from the ceiling and potted ferns scattered between the bamboo furnishings. The red stone tile floor was clean. The overhead fans provided good air circulation and a comfortable temperature. The place made me feel at ease.

I stepped forward and was met by two waitresses. They led me to a table in the back in full view of the kitchen.

"What would you like?" asked one of the waitresses, a teenage girl.

"I don't know. I want to see the menu."

"The what?"

"The menu. The list."

"We don't have one."

"What do you have to eat?"

The girl rattled off a list of things. I looked at her and shrugged my shoulders.

"I don't understand you," I said.

The two waitresses looked at each other and giggled. I smiled and said every Portuguese word for different foods that I knew. I don't mind making a fool of myself if it's the only way to get my point across, I thought. The girls giggled some more. I must be butchering their language. But they don't seem to mind. It's like a game.

Finally the cook, a young black woman, scolded the girls from behind the counter.

"Come with me," said one of the waitresses. "The cook will show you what there is to eat."

She led me to a glass-plated cooler and left me with the cook.

"This is the fresh meat and fish that we have today," said the cook, tapping the glass with her hand. She pointed to each cut on display and pronounced the name in Portuguese. I repeated after her. In the end, through a combination of words and pantomime, I managed to order a meal of grilled beef, salad and rice.

"And to drink?" she asked. "Water? Guarana?"

"A beer."

She laughed. "You already know that word well."

I took my beer and sat at the table closest to the grill. I took a long pull.

Now this is the way to learn a language, I thought. While the steak fried, I continued my conversation with the cook. She asked me about my background and plans, and filled me in on information of local interest. She was easy to talk to and understand. Her speech was slow and precise without being choppy. She was patient. When I had trouble formulating a sentence, she would smile encouragement and

fill in the gaps. She was a natural teacher. Within five minutes she taught me several new and useful words. For a foreigner like myself, it was a pleasure to hear her. If I stay in Benjamin Constant, though, this will be a good place to come to. They make me feel like a king.

The food was ready; I was served a heaping mound of rice and a generous portion of meat for \$60 cruzeiros. I ate slowly, savoring every juicy morsel.

I was about halfway through my dinner and working on my second beer when I spotted Hector and a friend at the front door. He saw me at about the same moment and rushed over to my table, chattering something as he came. His bony face was alight and his eyes sparkled. He was blowing and sweating like a racehorse. He babbled something in mixed Spanish-Portuguese. I eyes him bemusedly.

"I can't understand what you're saying, Hector," I said.

Hector was unable to catch his breath. He choked on his words.

"All right," I said. "Why don't you sit down, calm yourself and order something to drink for you and your friend. My treat ... Then you can tell me what's going on."

Though they sat down, Hector squirmed with agitation as he fought to recover his wind.

"Bring us a Guarana," called his friend to the waitress. She brought a bottle and two glasses. I filled one of the glasses and passed it to Hector. He gulped down a swallow.

"Drink," I urged his friend, who was watching me saucer-eyed. He filled his glass and drank.

I resumed eating. Then I noticed Hector's friend staring at me as if I were an alien from another planet. This irritated me. I leered at him until he averted his gaze. Then I turned to Hector.

"Are you ready to talk?" I asked him.

He shook his head and took another drink.

Maybe this is serious, I thought. What can he have to tell me that would bring him here in this state?

I watched him take another swallow of his drink. He seemed to have recovered his breath but he remained silent. Now he's playing games, I thought. I looked at him and shrugged my shoulders. Then I cut off a piece of steak and started chewing.

"Where have you been?" he burst out. "I've been looking all over town for you."

Slowly I raised my head, annoyed by his preemptory tone of voice.

"You must not have looked very hard," I said. "Except for a short walk, I've been here and at the hotel all evening."

"I went to the hotel. Nobody knew where you went."

"When I left ... I didn't know where I was going. I just knew I wanted something to eat ... And now, if you please, I want to know why you are looking for me."

"Because I have some important information ..." He paused for effect, really hamming it up.

"Go ahead," I said. "What is it?"

"There's a cargo ship leaving for Manaus this very night."

"What? Are you sure?" How can I take this guy seriously? I thought.

"It's certain!"

"If it's so certain, why didn't you know about this earlier when you checked at the dock?"

"Nobody knew." Hector leaned forward. His face was earnest. "What happened is that the captain decided on short notice to cut his stay and take off tonight. He's got a cargo of lumber and they finished loading it ahead of schedule. He probably wants to get home early for Christmas holidays. Who knows? ... Anyway, you have to hurry. They're going to leave soon."

"What time is soon?"

"I don't know, man ... But very soon."

"Can I finish my meal?"

"Of course! If you want to risk missing the boat."

"I'll risk it. I'm hungry."

This is crazy, I thought. Why should I spoil my dinner with a headlong dash to a ship that might not be leaving for days? How did he miss the information earlier? There aren't that many big ships in port. Maybe he didn't check ... Still, he certainly looks like he's telling the truth. Hell, what reason would he have to lie? ... A prank? Nah. He's telling the truth ... But this food is so good. And I haven't felt this mellow in days. Damn the boat! If it leaves, it leaves.

I forked rice into my mouth and washed it down with a long swallow of beer. Hector squirmed in his seat as he watched me.

"Who told you the boat is leaving tonight?" I asked him between gulps of food.

"One of the sailors on the boat is a

Camp Fire Kids Meet the Crushers



City Kids from left are Connie Lee, Lafayette Reed, Base Fullah, Chris Ogunsanya and Melody Chu. Former S.F. Giant Derrell Thomas, front center, now Crusher third base coach, and pitcher Lee Langley, top left, were among the dozen Crusher pros teaching youngsters how to play America's favorite pastime. Judith Hodgkins, CEO of Camp Fire Boys and Girls, Bay Area Council, and Larry Breckett, Frank Howard Allen president and CEO, enjoyed the special youth celebration day.

Camp Fire Boys and Girls City Kids from Visitacion Valley were among the 100 Camp Fire youngsters treated to a Crushers baseball youth clinic at the Sonoma County home field of the Bay Area's new minor league team.

This recent event was held to honor the 85th anniversaries of both National Camp Fire Boys and Girls - one of the country's leading youth development organizations - and Frank Howard Allen Bay Area Realtors, the day's host.

friend of mine. He told me. Don't you believe me?"

"Yes, I believe you. I just don't think the boat will leave in the next hour."

"Maybe, maybe not. But there are arrangements to be made."

"Hector, relax. Order another soda."

"I don't want anymore soda."

"All right. Give me ten minutes of peace and we'll go. I just want to finish this plate."

Hector folded his arms and stared at the table. The mound of food on my plate shrank. Hector's friend, a dark sturdy youth with kinky hair and the look of a soccer player, asked me breathless questions about the wonders of the United States. I answered him between mouthfuls of food. I distracted Hector by having him translate for me when I couldn't express or understand something. This way, I was able to finish the bulk of my dinner with relative calm. Still, Hector's morning contortion in his chair and nagging tongue finally got the better of me. The food lost its taste. I left a portion of rice and salad on the plate and swilled the remainder of the beer.

"All right," I said. "I'm ready. I'll go pay the bill and we can go."

"Hurry. I'll wait for you outside."

I went up to the cook and gave her the money. "Thank you for everything," I said. "The food was good. You give me a good image of Brasil."

"Are you coming back?"

"I don't know."

"Good luck."

I left the restaurant and found Hector and his friend in animated conversation. "Let's go," I said.

"I can't," said Hector's friend. "I have to go home. Have a good voyage. Luck."

"Same to you."

"I'll see you tomorrow," said Hector. His friend turned and walked off.

"Now we have to get moving," said Hector. "Let's go."

"I'm right with you. On to the pensao to get my stuff."

Hector turned and, almost at a trot, started down the hill. I molshed after him. I felt bloated and lazy. Before long, Hector was a good half block ahead of me. Then, realizing he was alone, he turned and glared at me until I caught up.

"You must hurry!" he said. "Don't you realize that? The boat may leave at any moment."

"I can't hurry, man. I'm full." I smiled. "It's very bad for your health to rush around after a heavy meal."

Hector gave me a dirty look.

"O.K. I'll try to move faster."

Now we walked side by side and I quickened my pace. Still, I didn't expect rush. I'm not ready for this, I thought. It can't be real. I no sooner resign myself to not going then he comes along with this. If he said tomorrow - fine. I'd be ready. But this? ... Well, what's the saying? ... Expect nothing and be prepared for everything. Especially when dealing with someone like Hector.

Continued Next Issue

Taxicab Meeting

S.F. Police Commission's designated Hearing Officer for Taxicab Public Convenience and Necessity will be conducting its final public hearing to review the current level of taxicab services within the City on Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 p.m. at the Hall of Justice, 850 Bryant St., Room 551.

Crossword Solution

From Page 6

COIT • PACT  
APRON • NRA  
MEAN • LATER  
EN • ROT • ST  
CASH • TOOT  
CASH • MR •  
VA • TAN • DA  
APRIL • STAR  
SET • MOORE  
TREE • RETA

GNRA Events

Call for reservations and information.

FORT FUNSTON

- The Comeback Trail: See restoration of dunes which once prevailed in San Francisco in a three mile hike, 10 a.m. Nov. 6 (239-2366).
- Who Was Fearless Freddie?: Learn about Fort Funston during its army days, 2 p.m. Nov. 4 (556-8642).

FORT POINT

- Picture This!: Photography instruction for youth age 5 and up, 10:30 a.m. Nov. 12 (561-4323).
- Pier Crabbing: Learn about equipment, bait (50 cents fee) and regulations, 2 p.m. Nov. 11, 25 (561-4323).
- The Stuff Forts are Made of: Guiding engineers and architects can explore Fort Point, 10 a.m. Nov. 18 (561-4323).

OCEAN BEACH

- Adopt-a-Beach Clean-up Day: Bring friends and family to help clean Ocean Beach, 10 a.m. Nov. 26 (556-8642).
- Beach Party Campfire: Bring marshmallows to Lincoln Way and Great Highway 6 p.m. Nov. 17 (556-8642).
- Flight of the Plover: Take a beach walk to learn about the endangered snowy plover, 10 a.m. Nov. 11 (556-8642).

PRESIDIO

- Architecture and Cultural Landscape: 1 p.m. Nov. 12 (561-4323).
- Army Changes the Landscape: Learn how growth of the army post effected its natural environment, 10 a.m. Nov. 12 (561-4323).
- Back to the Future: Walking tour of the Presidio, 10 a.m. Nov. 18; 1 p.m. Nov. 6, 20 (561-4323).
- Cemetery Walk: 10:30 a.m. Nov. 11 (561-4323).
- Don't Need No Gun: Explore Crissy Field and its role in early aviation history, 10 a.m. Nov. 11 (561-4323).
- The Last Gun: Demonstration of the last operational gun of its kind, 10 a.m. Nov. 4, 6 (561-4323).
- Lovers' Lane Historic Trail: Presidio's past and future in two-mile hike, 3 p.m. Nov. 11 (561-4323).
- The 1915 Fair: San Francisco hosted an international exposition in 1915 to celebrate completion of the Panama Canal and the rebirth of the city after the 1906 fire. View a model of the Jewel City and hear about this short-lived miracle, 2 p.m. Nov. 6, 12, 18, 26 (556-4323).
- Mountain Lake to Fort Point Hike: Retrace three miles of Anza's 1778 route, 10 a.m. Nov. 11 (561-4323).
- Patriotism and Prejudice: Japanese-American intelligence officers were crucial to military planning in World War II, even while their families were interned in wartime camps. A short walk will show where both actions began, 1 p.m. Nov. 18 (561-4323).
- Pedaling the Presidio: Bike ride through the Presidio, 10 a.m. Nov. 11, 19 (561-4323).
- From Post to Park: One-mile walk around Civil War-era boundary, 1 p.m. Nov. 3, 10 (561-4323).
- A Walk on the Wild Side: Learn about plants, animals and geology, 10 a.m. Nov. 5 (561-4323).

SAN FRANCISCO MEMORIAL

- Battle of the U.S.S. San Francisco: Learn about this ship's role in battle, 11 a.m. Nov. 11 (556-8642).

BUTRO BATHS

- Tour the Ruins: 11 a.m. Nov. 18 (556-8642).



The Puzzler Vice Presidents

H U M P H R E Y L I K N O S R E F F E J  
E O C A D N A B I S Y T E G N A E I L O  
N C B S I M U B N E R U B N A V G L Y H  
D I A A S R C O L F A X H E C H D L A N  
R I X L R R A K M A R S H A L L I M U S  
I H N O L T R T H E L A D N O M R O Q O  
C A N I N A O N L T D E R E A F N R R N  
K M O S B C W L R A O R H O O A I E U T  
S L T C H A E U M S T M R E R I K E H I  
S I N A O F M S A E H T P T D R C S T N  
G N I K E A O M E E T I H K N B E O N A  
O Y L K N S E R I Y M U O A I A R N Y O  
X A C X J W E N D N R I T S I N B O O D  
N O S N H O J O U R O C N N T K S S E G  
R O O S E V E L T I N T A L U S A L M S  
E X U V N A M R E H S E R N R O M I U I  
N B W E N G A R R Y S E R O E O H W H T  
R B R E C K I N I N E H W U M T Y L E R  
A O E H T R E L E E H W D A L L A S A U  
G N O S N E V E T S C O E G D I L O O C

- ADAMS

JEFFERSON

BURR

CLINTON

GARRY

TOMPKINS

CALHOUN

VAN BUREN

JOHNSON

TYLER

DALLAS

FILLMORE

KING

BRECKINRIDGE

HAMLIN
- JOHNSON

COLFAX

WILSON

WHEELER

ARTHUR

HENDRICKS

MORTON

STEVENSON

HOBART

ROOSEVELT

FAIRBANKS

SHERMAN

MARSHALL

COOLIDGE

DAWES
- CURTIS

GARNER

WALLACE

TRUMAN

BARKLEY

NIXON

JOHNSON

HUMPHREY

AGNEW

FORD

ROCKEFELLER

MONDALE

BUSH

OUAYLE

GORE



Historic Proportions

- Match clues to their answers.
- 1985
- As of August 31, it was now a crime to burn this.
  - On September 13, we first heard "Land spreadin' out so far and wide, keep Manhattan, just give me that countryside."
  - And on September 17, everyone laughed at Stalag 13 antics.
  - And the following night, would you believe the first use of a shoe phone?
  - They won the World Series this year.
  - And they missed being baseball's champs by one game.
  - Best Picture at the 1965 Academy Awards.
  - And she was voted Best Actress.
  - Summer saw this popular item

Arthritis Help Needed

Volunteers are needed by the Arthritis Foundation's Northern California Chapter to help with activities, including implementing a variety of services, assisting with public education forums and fundraising events. Other volunteers prefer to answer telephones, handle correspondence or help with office projects.

While helping those in need, volunteers experience an opportunity for personal growth and development while receiving community recognition and meeting new people. For more information, call (800) 464-6240.

FIVE YEARS AGO IN THE GRAPEVINE

- NOVEMBER 1990
- "Neighborhood residents gathered for a barbecue October 14 at Visitacion Valley Playground to clean the park of debris.
  - "Christmas in April Foundation announced plans to donate time, resources and volunteers to restore selected Valley homes.
  - "Rosa's Boutique celebrated 10 years of business on Leland Ave.

Book Review

San Francisco Almanac by Gladys Hansen; Chronicle Books, San Francisco, 1995; 430 pgs.; \$16.95.

With its first two versions having been published in 1975 and 1980, this long-awaited third edition brings local history up-to-date on the last 15 years while expanding on many of its various categories. With more than 150 additional pages of information than its original issue, topics range from buildings, churches, schools and streets to hills, fairs, sports and cemeteries - and just about everything else in between. This is the one essential guide to everything that is San Francisco.

Recipe of the Month

**STUFFED STEAK ROLL**

1/2 LB. beef, round boneless and 1/2" thick; 4 tsp. water; 1 tbsp. butter or margarine; 1/2 cup cornbread stuffing mix; 2 tbsp. shredded carrot; 2 green onions, sliced; 1 tsp. water; 1 tsp. kitchen bouquet; 2 tsp. butter or margarine; 2 tsp. unbleached flour; 1/2 cup water; 2 tsp. dry sherry; 1 tsp. kitchen bouquet; 1/2 tsp. instant beef bouillon.

Use meat mallet to pound the steak to 1/4 inch thickness.

In a 2-cup measure, micro-cook 4 tsp. water and 1 tsp. butter or margarine, uncovered full power about 45 seconds or until butter is melted. Stir in stuffing mix, carrot and green onion. Spread mixture to within 1/2 inch of the edge of the meat. Roll up jellyroll style starting with the narrow end.

The steak with string or use wooden picks to secure. Place meat, seam side down, on a nonmetal rack in a shallow baking dish. Micro-cook uncovered at half power for 4 minutes. Meanwhile, stir together 1 tsp. water and 1 tsp. kitchen bouquet. Brush over the meat roll. Turn meat roll over. Brush again with kitchen bouquet mixture. Micro-cook, uncovered, on half power for 4 to 7 minutes or until meat is done, rotating dish every two minutes.

For the sauce, in a 2-cup measure micro-cook 2 tsp. butter or margarine uncovered at full power for 30 to 45 seconds or until butter is melted. Stir in flour. Add 1/2 cup water, sherry, 1 tsp. kitchen bouquet and beef granules; mix well. Micro-cook uncovered on full power for 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 minutes or until thickened and bubbly, stirring every 30 seconds.

Slice meat roll into 1/2-inch thick slices. Remove string or wooden picks. Serve sauce with meat.

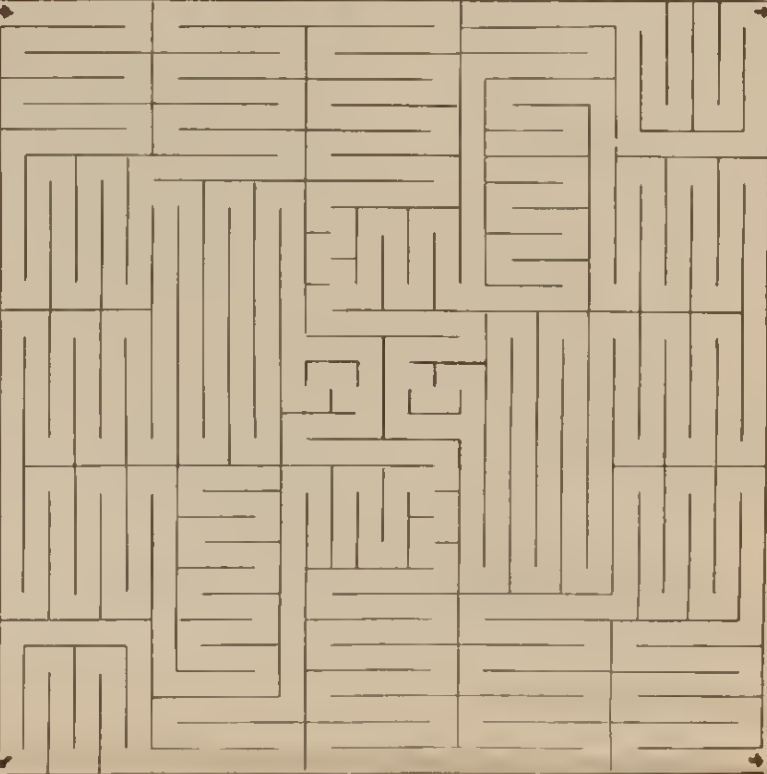
Serves 2.

- bouncing in.
- On September 9, President Johnson signed a bill establishing this department.
  - On October 28, this popular piece of construction was completed in St. Louis.
  - On October 4, he became the first pontiff to visit the Western Hemisphere.
  - After the 1965 baseball season, they were no more.

Composting Workshop

Turn your fruit, vegetable and yard trimmings into a rich soil for your garden and house plants by composting them. Learn how to compost in small indoor and outdoor settings by attending a free hands-on urban composting workshop from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Saturday, November 4. Conducted by the S.F. League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG), the workshop will be held at SLUG's Garden for the Environment located at 7th Ave. and Lawton St. Additional workshops are also available in Spanish and Chinese. Call SLUG's Compost Hotline at 285-7585 for reservations and information.

MINUTE MAZE



FAMOUS BIRTHDAYS

- NOVEMBER
- Stephen Crane (1871); George Fenneman (1912); Robert Foxworth (1941); George S. Irving (1922); Lyle Lovett (1957); Betsy Palmer (1927); Roy Scheider (1936).
  - Fran Allison (1924); Robert Armstrong (1896); Daniel Boone (1734); Alice Brady (1893); James Dunn (1905); Bob Super Dave Einstein (1940); Warren G. Harding (1895); Dennis King (1897); k.d. lang (1961); Burt Lancaster (1913); James K. Polk (1795); Ann Rutherford (1920).
  - Roseanne (1952); Charlee Broneon (1922); Jack Donaghy (1912); Michael Dukakis (1933); Larry Holmes (1949); Lulu (1948); Dennis Miller (1953); Paul Wayne (1937).
  - Martin Balsam (1919); Art Carney (1919); Walter Cronkite (1918); Paul Douglas (1907); G.F. Goodrich (1941); Darla Hood (1931); Ralph Macchio (1962); Don Roberts (1930); Will Rogers (1979); Allan Sherman (1924); Loretta Swit (1937); Gig Young (1913).
  - Bryan Adams (1959); Herb Edelman (1933); Eugene Debs (1855); Art Garfunkel (1941); Andrea McArdle (1963); Joel McCrea (1905); Peter Onor (1947); Tatum O'Neal (1963); Roy Rogers (1912); Natalie Schafer (1912); Sam Shepard (1943); Elke Sommer (1940); Ike Turner (1931).
  - Rey Conitt (1916); Sally Field (1945); Mike Nichols (1931); P.J. Proby (1938); Doug Sahm (1941); Maria Schriver (1965); John Phillip Sousa (1854).
  - Lotta Crabtree (1947); Marie Curie (1867); Billy Graham (1919); Al Hirt (1922); Dean Jagger (1903); Joni Mitchell (1943); Johnny Rivers (1942); Joan Sutherland (1926).
  - Mary Hart (1961); Jane Havoc (1919); Katherine Hepburn (1909); Ricki Lee Jones (1964); Petri Page (1927); Bonnie Raitt (1949); Esther Rolle (1933); Morley Safer (1931); Gene Saks (1921); Robert Strauss (1913); Roy Wood (1946).
  - Spiro Agnew (1918); Mane Dressler (1889); Lou Ferrigno (1932); Charlie Jones (1930); Hedy Lamarr (1913); Claude Reins (1889); Mary Travers (1936).
  - Richard Burton (1925); Donna Fargo (1945); MacKenzie Phillips (1959); Roy Scheider (1932).
  - Stubby Kaye (1918); Susan Kohner (1936); Charles Manson (1934); Demi Moore (1962); Pat O'Brien (1899); George Petton (1885); Joe Penner (1904); Robert Ryan (1915); Gene Tierney (1920); Jonathan Winters (1911); Jesse Colin Young (1944).
  - Harry S. Ackerman (1912); Tonye Harding (1971); Kim Hunter (1922); Grace Kelly (1929); Al Michaels (1944); Jack Oakie (1903); Stephanie Powers (1942); Jo Stafford (1918); Neil Young (1945).
  - Peter Cooke (1937); Jack Elam (1915); Whoopi Goldberg (1950); Joe Mantegna (1947); Gary Marshall (1934); Clyde McPhatter (1933); Richard Mulligan (1932); Robert Sterling (1917); Robert Louis Stevenson (1950).
  - Prince Charles (1948); Rosemary DeCamp (1910); Robert Fulton (1768); Robert Ginty (1948); Brian Keith (1921); McLean Stevenson (1929); Yanni (1954).
  - Ed Asner (1929); Pelula Clark (1932); Beverly D'Angelo (1954); John Larr (1931); Veronica Lake (1919); Judge Joseph Wapner (1919); Sam Watson (1940).
  - Lisa Bonal (1967); Dewa Butler (1916); Dwight Gooden (1964); W.C. Handy (1873); Mary Margaret McBride (1899); Donne McWhirnie (1942); Burgess Meredith (1909); Guy Stockwell (1938).
  - Danny DeVito (1944); Lauren Hutton (1944); Gordon Lightfoot (1938); Lorne Michaels (1944); Martin Scorsese (1942); Tom Seaver (1944).
  - Hank Ballard (1936); Imogene Coca (1906); Linda Evans (1942); Kevin Nealon (1953); Graham Parker (1950); Jameson Parker (1947); Elizabeth Perkins (1961); Brenda Vaccaro (1939); Kim Wilde (1960).
  - Dick Cavett (1936); Jodie Foster (1962); Indira Gandhi (1917); James A. Garfield (1831); Dan Haggerty (1941); Larry King (1933); Calvin Klein (1942); Meg Ryan (1963); Ted Turner (1938); Clifton Webb (1891); Alan Young (1919).
  - Kaye Ballard (1926); Alistair Cooke (1908); Richard Dawson (1932); Bo Derek (1956); Veronica Hamel (1943); Robert Kennedy (1925); Ruth Laredo (1937); Richard Mear (1948); Estelle Parsons (1927); Dick Smothers (1939).
  - Joseph Campanella (1927); Dr. John (1940); Goldie Hawn (1945); Laurence Luckenbill (1934); Harpo Marx (1893); Ralph Meeker (1920); Julie Mills (1941); Elenor Powell (1904); Mario Thomas (1943).
  - Boris Becker (1967); Michael Callan (1936); Tom Conti (1922); Jamie Lee Curtis (1956); Rodney Dangerfield (1922); Manel Hemingway (1981); Billie Jean King (1943); Robert Vaughn (1932); Roy Walford (1919).
  - Ellen Drew (1915); Bruce Hornsby (1954); Victor Jory (1902); Boris Karloff (1887); Franklin Pierce (1804).
  - William F. Buckley (1925); Ronald Delume (1925); Howard Duff (1917); Geraldine Fitzgerald (1913); Marilyn Fitzwater (1942); Scott Joplin (1868); Stanley Livingston (1950); Dick Powell (1904); Fr. Junipero Serra (1713).
  - Christine Applegate (1972); Steve Brodie (1918); Amy Grant (1980); Joe DiMaggio (1914); John F. Kennedy, Jr. (1960); John Larroquette (1947); Ricardo Montalban (1920); Carry Naton (1846); Perc Sledge (1940).
  - Olivia Cole (1942); Frances Dee (1907); Robert Goulet (1933); Rich Little (1938); Mane Mercer (1935); Charles Schultz (1922); Eric Sevareid (1935); Tina Turner (1938).
  - Robin Givens (1964); Jayne Kennedy (1951); Bruce Lee (1940); Eddie Rabbit (1941); Buffalo Bob Smith (1917).
  - Ed Harris (1950); Gary Hart (1938); Hope Lange (1931); Randy Newman (1943); Paul Schaffer (1949).
  - Buzy Berkeley (1895); Felix Cavaliere (1944); Diane Ladd (1932); Rod LaRocque (1898); Howie Mandel (1965); Chuck Mangione (1940); John Mayall (1933); Frank Reynolds (1923); Vin Scully (1927); Gary Shandling (1948).
  - Shirley Chisholm (1924); Winston Churchill (1874); Dick Clark (1929); Richard Cranne (1920); Robert Guillaume (1937); Billy Idol (1955); Virginia Mayo (1920); Jonathan Swift (1667); Mark Twain (1835); Etem Zimbalist, Jr. (1923).

This Month in S.F. History

- NOVEMBER
- In 1853, the short-lived Daily Evening News was started by C. Bartlett and F.W. Pinkham.
  - In 1853, the Daily California Chronicle (no relation to the S.F. Chronicle of today) was commenced by Frank Soule and Co. In 1854, Weehington St. between Dupont (now Grant Ave.) and Kearny St. was paved with cobblestones.
  - In 1919, Presidio airstrip Crissy Field was dedicated.
  - In 1854, construction was completed on an Alcatraz lighthouse.
  - In 1952, a direct cross-continent telegraph line was established between San Francisco and New York.
  - In 1848, the first S.F. post office was established on Clay St.
  - In 1924, the Palace of the Legion of Honor was dedicated. In 1931, cornerstones were laid for both the Veteran's Building and Opera House in the S.F. Civic Center. In 1957, demolition began on the cable car barn at California and Hyde St., former home of the California St. Railway - absorbed by Muni in 1952. In 1959, demolition began on Seals Stadium, home field of the Pacific Coast League S.F. Seals and Mission Reds

- since 1933, and transplanted S.F. Giants in 1958-59 for two seasons during construction of Candlestick Park.
- In 1852, work started on the "first magnetic telegraph line" in the state. In 1854, the Daily Town Talk was established by William H. Mantz and Co. In 1936, after a bit more than three years of construction, the Bay Bridge was opened to traffic.
- In 1941, the first Grand National Livestock Exposition, Horse Show and Rodeo opened at the Cow Palace.
- In 1853, the City ordered street signs be placed at intersections.
- In 1848, the California Star - first S.F. newspaper - resumed publication merged with the Californian under Edward Kemble after a two month suspension. In 1936, Golden Gate Bridge crews joined both sections of the main span.
- In 1910, work started on a temporary S.F. City Hall on Market St.
- In 1935, airmail service started between S.F. and the Philippines on Pan American Airways.
- In 1888, a field at Folsom and 25th St. hosted the City's first baseball game.
- In 1979, S.F. and the world were shocked when both Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk were assassinated at City Hall by Dan White, a onetime heroic City firefighter and policeman having resigned as supervisor several days earlier.

SFUSD Day of Peace

An annual Day of Peace on September 19 was recently adopted by the S.F. Board of Education for the S.F. Unified School District.

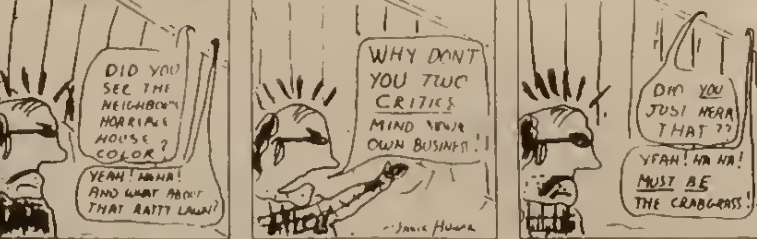
"Peace has been advocated throughout the ages by great men and women and we must continue in this quest," explained Board of Education Commissioner Leland Y. Yee, Ph.D., who sponsored the resolution. "Educating our young to grow in peace and harmony with our communities and neighbors here at home and abroad should be a priority of our educational system. Peace will increase the quality of life for all. Hate and violence will diminish it."

In this resolution, the School Board asked that schools set aside instructional time to devote to peace studies, and that the District adopt instructional materials which reflect awareness and understanding of peace.

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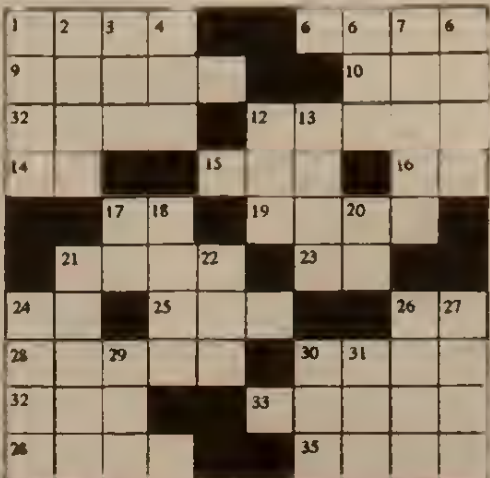
Bump, the Grump



GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD

Solution on Page 5

- ACROSS
- S.F. tower
  - Treaty
  - Bib
  - Gun club
  - Grouchy
  - After
  - Made of (euf)
  - Spoil
  - Saint (ab)
  - Georgia
  - Bander
  - Money
  - Ed
  - Virginie
  - Brown
  - District Attorney
  - Month
  - Nove
  - Piece
  - Gary
  - Plant
  - VCR format



- DOWN
- Arrived
  - On
  - Bank account
  - 2000 pounds
  - Insect

- Ridge
- Sour
- Land
- Molecule
- 17 across
- Italian town
- Either
- Prank
- 2001 computer
- Broad
- Sourry
- Space
- Route (ab)
- Cry
- Digit



| SUNDAY  | MONDAY                                 | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY                                   | THURSDAY                  | FRIDAY                                 | SATURDAY                             |
|---|--|---|---|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| City Meetings: Aging-1st Wed 9:30 am; Airport-1st & 3rd Tu 3 pm; Arts-1st Mon 8 pm; Education-2nd/4th Tu 7 pm; Health-1st/3rd Tu 3 pm; Housing Authority-2nd/4th Th 4 pm; Human Rights-1st/3rd Th 4:30 pm; Library-1st Tu 5:30 pm; Planning-1st Th 1:30 pm; Police-Wed 5:30 pm; Port-1st Tu/3rd Wed 4:30 pm; Public Utilities-2nd/4th Tu 2 pm; Rec and Park-3rd Th 2 pm; Social Services-4th Th 9:30 am; Status of Women-4th Th 4 pm; Supervisors-Mon 2 pm. |  |   |   |                           |  |                                      |
| 5<br>1:00pm VVCC Bingo  | 6<br>11:00am VVCC Senior Shopping Day  | 7<br>12:00pm VVCC Senior Bingo  | 8<br>4:00pm Bayview Park Advisory Committee | 9                         | 10<br>12:00pm VVCC Senior Shopping Day | 11                                   |
| 12<br>1:00pm VVCC Bingo   | 13<br>11:00am VVCC Senior Shopping Day | 14<br>12:00pm VVCC Senior Bingo<br>4:00pm VVCC Board Meeting<br>4:30pm Peninsula Tennis Meet<br>7:00pm El Dorado N.B.C. Meeting | 15  | 16<br>LHDA Region 1 and 2 | 17<br>12:00pm VVCC Senior Shopping Day | 18<br>10:00am Friends of Midway Park |
| 19<br>1:00pm VVCC Bingo   | 20<br>11:00am VVCC Senior Shopping Day | 21<br>12:00pm VVCC Senior Bingo   | 22  | 23<br>The Thanksgiving    | 24                                     | 25                                   |
| 26<br>1:00pm VVCC Bingo   | 27<br>11:00am VVCC Senior Shopping Day | 28<br>12:00pm VVCC Senior Bingo   | 29  | 30                        |  |                                      |

Next Visitation Valley Task Force Meeting is November 18, 1995, 10:30 a.m. at VVCC, 50 Raymond Ave.

#### GRAPEVINE ADVERTISING

DISPLAY RATES PER ISSUE: Full Page: \$150; 1/2 Page: \$80; 1/4 Page: \$45; 1/8 Page: \$25; 1/12 Page: \$15.  
PRIVATE PARTY WANT-ADS: 20 words for \$1. Additional lines 50 cents each.  
Mail ad and payment by 20th of prior month to Visitation Valley Grapevine, 60 Raymond Ave., San Francisco, CA 94134

#### Nutcracker Returning

San Francisco Ballet's festive production of *Nutcracker* will be performed at the War Memorial Opera House for 35 performances beginning Tuesday, December 12 through Sunday, December 31. *Nutcracker* marks the final performances in the Opera House before the theater is closed for seismic renovations and upgrades on the first day of 1996.

Tickets for one of the nation's distinguished and elaborate productions of the holiday classic are now on sale at the Ballet Box Office. Costumed *Nutcracker* dancers will greet patrons and serve refreshments at the Box Office on that day from 10 a.m. until 12 noon.

Regular Ballet Box Office hours are Monday through Saturday, 12 noon to 6 p.m. To charge tickets by phone, call 865-2000.

#### Training, Orientation For School Volunteers

San Francisco School Volunteers will be holding a special training and orientation session for volunteers on Saturday, November 4, 9 a.m. to 12 noon at James Lick Middle School, 1220 Noe St.

Volunteers are currently being recruited for:

\**Book Buddies*: encouraging an elementary school student to read, working with a reading specialist to assist first graders one on one, or helping students with journal writing and story discussion.

\**Tech Help*: Working with students in marine science, biology, physics and computer labs.

\**Bilingual Pals*: Tutoring students who speak Samoan, Spanish, Chinese and Arabic.

Call 274-0250 for more information.

#### A Healthy Season Begins with a Flu Shot

This fall, many seniors in Visitation Valley, Bayview - Hunters Point and the Western Addition are receiving postcards from California Medical Review, Inc. (CMRI) with a message that flu shots are safe, effective and paid for by Medicare. Through the end of November, seniors can take this postcard or bring their Medicare card into a public health center for a free flu shot.

Health Center #3 at 1525 Silver Ave. will be offering flu shots on November 2, 7 and 9 from 8:30 to 11 a.m.

CMRI, the Medicare quality improvement organization for California's 3.7 million Medicare beneficiaries, is collaborating with dozens of organizations throughout San Francisco, Alameda and Los Angeles counties to improve flu immunization rates among African American seniors. Participants in San Francisco are: Bayview Hunters Point Multipurpose Center, Rose

Olivet Baptist Church, Bayview Hunters Point Network for Elders, South-east Health Center and Jones Memorial United Methodist Church.

For more information, call the CMRI Helpline at (800) 841-1602.

**COMMUNITY MEETING**  
Little Hollywood Committee  
November 11, 1995, 7 p.m.  
Korean First Presbyterian Church, 120 Lathrop Ave.

The Little Hollywood Committee (LHC) will actively and aggressively seek environmental justice environmental equity, and compensation for environmental transgressions. The goal of the LHC is to restore and maintain the health, safety and tranquility of the community.

#### Waste Expansion

From Page 3

A health risk assessment and evaluation (must be done) as to the effects that total air emissions from a hazardous waste facility have in creating, aggravating and intensifying respiratory and pulmonary cardiac diseases. Asthma, chronic bronchitis, pulmonary fibrosis and industrial (chemically induced) asthma and their relation to contaminants should be studied. This type of risk analysis should include impacts of emissions on emphysema, pneumonia, pulmonary embolism, tuberculosis, acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) infection.

A priority of San Francisco is preventive measures to reduce the cost of health services. Low income and minority communities must not be used as a dumping ground for hazardous and toxic processing facilities. The large M-2 Heavy Industrial must have all the residential units removed and no new residential units should be allowed to be built in these districts. The greater the risk of air borne contamination from fire or explosion, then the more important it is for the facility to be placed in a central location within the M-2 District.

Thank you for your time,  
Ralph Oroquite

#### GET THE GRAPEVINE BY MAIL

A monthly Valley original for \$9.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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# A Happy Birthday And Sad Farewell

By Gerry L. Galvan

A mixed feeling of anxiety and resignation pervaded as noontime approached on September 16 at Geneva Towers' grounds where an obviously thin crowd of former Towers residents was joined by other involved citizens of the neighborhood to celebrate the inevitable tearing down and replacement of the beleaguered buildings.

The "celebrants" felt uneasy over the telltale signs that not one City Hall official or mayoral candidate would show up in response to the Towers' invitation to attend the festivities. So far, only one person identified with the Mayor's Office - Miss Deedra Jackson of the Mayor's Office of Children, Youth and Their Families - had attended. She arrived when the festivities were winding down to the final numbers. Miss Jackson is illison with the Mayor's Office to the Visitacion Valley Task Force, the potent group that had worked diligently on improving Visitacion Valley. One noteworthy achievement of the task force was the resolution of the Geneva Towers Issue.



John King (r) shows Visitacion Valley Task Force member Rev. Dr. Jerry O. Resus (c) ideas presented by John Phillips, a contractor willing to demolish and rebuild replacement housing for Geneva Towers.



Vernon Long delivers a welcome address during festivities.

The September 16 Geneva Towers festivities were designed to happen on John King's 80th birthday. Vernon Long, director of e Towers' youth program made sure that Mr. King was around during such an important event. Long and his associates didn't tell Mr. King that his birthday and productive role in the community were some of the reasons for holding the affair on September 16. Obviously, it came as a surprise to the "grand old men" of Visitacion Valley.

The no-show performance of City Hall officials and mayoral candidates was seen as a slap in the face of the people in Visitacion Valley. One observer, who requested not to be identified, said that such City Hall official/political indifference to the invitation to attend could be indicative of how the Valley has been viewed politically and economically. "Could this mean rough times ahead for the Valley and City Hall?" was the rueful comment. It could also reflect a negative thinking on the part of the other mayoral candidates, including former Assembly Speaker Willie Brown and Ben Horn, another front-runner.

Your reporter had the opportunity to rub elbows with John King during Sunday worship service and coffee hour at Saint James church the following morning. King consented in speaking to the Grapevine about his most important project, the John W. King Senior Center. He discouraged, for the moment, any further discussion on Geneva Towers and the not too impressive affair at the Towers'



Jewell Barrett, Chanetel Bolden, Channel Bolden and Nakeitha Kennedy perform a dance.

quately funded program for the elderly. He made representation with S.F. City Hall and other government agencies, and the private sector for their input in a plan to put up a senior citizens' center.

King's efforts brought fruit subsequently. In 1983, the Senior Escort Service was officially organized. Limited services were provided, but then, the seeming plight of the handicapped elderly was being alleviated. Motorized transportation was ushered in as one van after another was acquired, either by donation from civic-spirited citizens or direct purchase by the center. Today, the John W. King Senior Center can boast of seven well-maintained vans which cater to 500 clients all over the City. An average of 50,000 rides is provided by

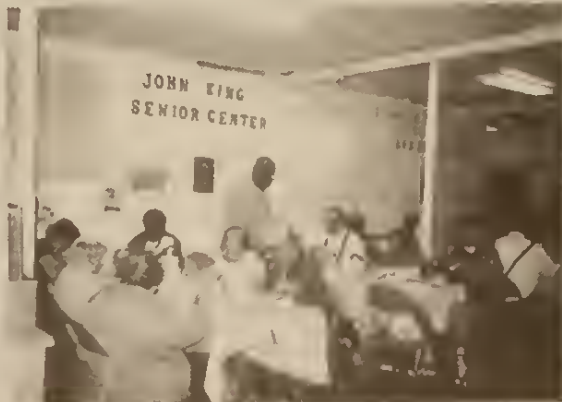
the center every year.

The center serves balanced noontime meals Mondays through Fridays to its participating senior citizens at 590 Leland Ave. The meals are free. One, however, is encouraged to give a minimum \$1.25 donation, if it can be afforded. An average of 185 free food boxes are also delivered to the homes of the physically impaired every week.

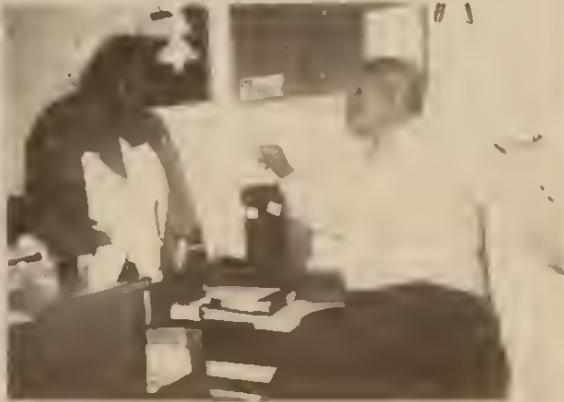
At this juncture, it's interesting to note that the propensity of men and women in coming to the aid of their fellow human beings is a natural characteristic of those whose background and exposure lay within the framework of Christian love. One is invited to look at the various donors to the John King Senior Center: the Haas family of Levi Strauss, the Oakland Athletics ball club and other interests was among the the first of private concerns and entities to donate \$10,000 cash during the fledgling years of the center. (Family patriarch Walter Haas died September 20 at the age of 79 just a few days after his ball club changed ownership).

Of the generous Haas family donations to the center, John King said that, "God-loving and God-fearing individuals are, by nature, lovers of their fellow human beings. They love to help the next person who is in need."

Such qualities are copiously found in John King, a proven Christian who as a member of St. James Presbyterian Church has done more than his share.



Participants enjoy a noontime meal at the John King Senior Center.



John King discusses matters with E. La Vergne Keppard, program director.



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